

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**First Marking Period – Welcome to Merryweather High/Our Teachers Are The Best****Names****Objective:** Creating names**Activity**

When Melinda enters the auditorium of Merryweather High, she notices all the different groups around her. After listing off several like: the 'Big Hair Chix, the Marthas, and Suffering Artists, Melinda realizes she herself doesn't belong anywhere.

Sitting alone, she creates a new name for herself: "I am Outcast." Outcast suddenly becomes not just her physical position in the auditorium, or her state of mind at the moment, but her identity, as well. This is the only name for Melinda that Laurie Halse Anderson gives the reader at this point.

Think about your own name. Does it really represent who you are? What might describe you better? For example you might choose a name in one word like Melinda does and call yourself Jubilation, or you could combine words to create a name like: Prefers Lunch, Often Studies, or Helpful Wisdom.

When you have chosen your name create a name plate for yourself on construction paper. Embellish and decorate anyway you like. On the back explain in a paragraph how this name best describes you.